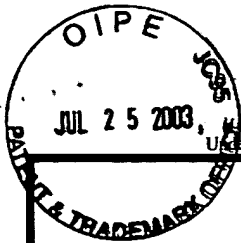


JUL 28 2003

RCE/2700

PTO/SB/30 (10/01)

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031
Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provided for continued examination of a utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.
See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	09/284,699 #21
Filing Date	April 19, 1999 W. Lawson
First Named Inventor	Yasushi TANAKA 8/18/03
Group Art Unit	2611
Examiner Name	Jason P. SALCE
Attorney Docket Number	450108-4542

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.
Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

RECEIVED

JUL 29 2003

Technology Center 2600

1. Submission required under CFR 1.114.

- a. ☒ Previously submitted
- i. ☒ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 CFR 1.116 previously filed on June 27, 2003.
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered)
- ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
- iii. ☐ Other _____
- b. ☐ Enclosed
- i. ☐ Amendment/Reply
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- iv. ☐ Other _____

07/29/2003 MBERHE 00000113 09284699

01 FC:1801
02 FC:1251750.00 OP
110.00 OP

2. Miscellaneous

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103© for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(I) required)
- b. ☐ Other _____

3. Fees

The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees, or credit any overpayments, to
Deposit Account No. 50-0320.
- i. ☐ RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)
- ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)
- iii. ☐ Other _____
- b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$860.00 is enclosed for the following: filing fee and 1-month Extension of Time.
- c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	Gordon Kessler	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	38,511
Signature	<i>Gordon Kessler</i>	Date	July 25, 2003

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Name (Print/Type)	Barnet Shindlerman
Signature	<i>Barnet Shindlerman</i>
Date	July 25, 2003
"Express Mail" mailing label number: EV 287825021 US	